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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 86

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1998

INTRODUCED BY

DONALD L. WHITAKER

A JOINT MEMORIAL

IN MEMORY OF WILMA BERRY, WIFE OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE DAN BERRY.

WHEREAS, Wilma "Burrie" Berry, wife of former Representative Dan Berry, died December 18, 1997; and

WHEREAS, she was born September 23, 1923 in Post, Texas and married Dan on January 1, 1943 in Pampa, Texas; and

WHEREAS, she moved to the Berry ranch in 1946 and was a homemaker, a member of the First United Methodist church and the Eunice chamber of commerce and the secretary for the American junior rodeo association for many years; and

WHEREAS, she was named Eunice's citizen of the year for 1987-88; and

WHEREAS, Wilma was a loyal friend who cared passionately about her family, her community and her state and was a strong

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1 advocate for the ranching life and values of rural New Mexico;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, the old hands at the legislature remember Wilma  
4 playing cards in the lounge with the other wives, one ear on  
5 the game and the other one attending to the floor action, or  
6 sitting patiently in the legislative council service waiting  
7 for Dan's interim committee meeting to end; and

8 WHEREAS, Wilma Berry was one of the few people who was  
9 allowed to get away with questioning a legislator's vote, and  
10 not just her husband's; and

11 WHEREAS, she made the best chile beans and hot rolls  
12 around, and there are still folks in the legislature, house  
13 and senate, democrat and republican, who remember sitting  
14 around after a hard day's work, eating and laughing and  
15 relaxing over Wilma's down-home food; and

16 WHEREAS, Wilma is survived by a loving family, including  
17 her husband Dan, sons Danny and Phillip, brother Jim, sisters  
18 Mary, Maxine and Jennie and her four grandchildren to whom she  
19 was devoted; and

20 WHEREAS, she is remembered fondly by legislators, staff,  
21 lobbyists and the many other friends she had in Santa Fe;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
23 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that heartfelt condolences be extended to  
24 the friends and family of Wilma "Burrie" Berry, an outstanding  
25 and devoted New Mexican; and

